



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Welsh Government Integrated Impact Assessment Summary

Title of Proposal:

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (Public Bodies)
(Amendment) Regulations 2024

Department:

Sustainable Futures Division

Minister Responsible:

Lesley Griffiths MS, Cabinet Secretary for Culture and Social Justice

Start date:

30 June 2024

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What action is the Welsh Government considering and why?

1. We have a law in Wales that helps us all work together to improve our environment, our economy, our society and our culture. For people, for our planet. For now, and for our future. This is called the [Well-being of Future Generations Act](#) (“the WFG Act”). This is about ensuring that future generations have at least the same quality of life as we do now. The WFG Act provides for better decision-making by ensuring that public bodies:
 - take account of the long term
 - help to prevent problems occurring or getting worse
 - take an integrated approach
 - take a collaborative approach, and
 - consider and involve people of all ages and diversity.

Why are we reviewing the list of public bodies listed in the WFG Act?

2. Since the WFG Act was passed into law in 2015 and the well-being duty on specified public bodies commenced in 2016, the public sector landscape in Wales has changed and it is right that we review whether additional public bodies warrant designation to be subject to the sustainable development and well-being duty in section 3 of Part 2 of the WFG Act. There are currently 48 bodies listed in section 6(1) of the WFG Act.
3. The decision to review the public bodies subject to the sustainable development and well-being duty has been informed and promoted by:
 - The Auditor General for Wales’ report [So, what’s different? Findings from the Auditor General’s Sustainable Development Principle Examinations](#) (May 2020), which noted that new public bodies have been established since 2015 but have not been designated under the WFG Act and that other pre-existing bodies (such as the Wales Ambulance Service University NHS Trust) may also warrant designation.
 - The Public Accounts Committee’s (fifth Senedd) report [Delivering for Future Generations – the story so far](#) (March 2021). Recommendation 7 of the report states “The Welsh Government must carry out a review of the public bodies that are subject to the WFG Act.”
4. The [Welsh Government](#) accepted the recommendations from these reports and in late 2021 committed to undertake a review of public bodies that may warrant designation to the WFG Act.
5. In response to the recommendation from the Public Accounts Committee inquiry into the implementation of the WFG Act in 2021, the Welsh Government reviewed which public bodies are subject to the to the sustainable development and well-being duty in section 3 of Part 2 of the WFG Act.
6. Following this review and public consultation between 14 July and 20 October 2022, the Welsh Government proposed adding eight public bodies to section 6(1) of the WFG Act, so that they are subject to the well-being duty and are required to carry out sustainable development. The additional public bodies proposed are:

- Qualifications Wales
 - Social Care Wales
 - Health Education and Improvement Wales
 - Welsh Revenue Authority
 - Transport for Wales
 - Centre for Digital Public Services Ltd
 - Digital Health and Care Wales
 - Welsh Ambulance Services University NHS Trust
7. Welsh Ministers considered the responses to the consultation and confirmed in February 2024 ([Written Statement](#)) that they propose to add the additional public bodies listed in paragraph 7 to section 6(1) of the WFG Act, using the powers in section 52 of the WFG Act. This would be secured through secondary legislation.
 8. The Welsh Government proposes that these additional public bodies are subject to the sustainable development and well-being duty from 30 June 2024.
 9. By adding the additional public bodies to the WFG Act, the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales (“the FGC”) will have more public bodies to monitor, review and support, and the Auditor General for Wales (“the AGW”) will have to carry out more sustainable development principle examinations.
 10. The additional public bodies will, by virtue of being added to section 6(1) be subject to the social partnership duty and socially responsible procurement duty as set out in the [Social Partnership and Public Procurement \(Wales\) Act 2023](#) (“the SPPP Act”).
 11. The proposals do not change the policy objectives or intended outcomes of the WFG Act. By extending the WFG Act to additional public bodies, the proposals extend the reach of the WFG Act to different public services that people may receive, and additional functions that these additional public bodies discharge that impact the economic, social, environmental, and cultural well-being of Wales.
 12. The [Future Trends Wales report 2021](#) highlighted key trends affecting Wales’ well-being, including the changing demand for public services. Extending the WFG Act to cover additional public bodies will ensure that these public bodies are working to the same high standards of governance and decision making and will support better collaboration between public bodies in response to these challenges. The proposals integrate closely with the provisions and new duties in the SPPP Act. We have worked in collaboration with and involved the proposed additional public bodies to understand the impacts of extending the WFG Act and through our knowledge exchange sessions have been able to share best practice.
 13. Extending the WFG Act to these additional public bodies will strengthen and widen existing governance arrangements for improving the well-being of Wales. The WFG Act establishes high standards of governance and decision-making across the devolved Welsh public sector, including the Welsh Government. This consistency of standards helps strengthen the delivery of the Welsh Government’s well-being objectives, which are outlined in the [Programme for Government](#), and supports the delivery of transformative policies in Wales. Capturing more of the One Welsh Public service under the framework of the WFG Act will provide for better consistency and a level playing field.

14. Certain public bodies will have different capacity and capability to contribute to achieving some or all of the well-being goals depending on their duties, powers and resources. However, the well-being duty relates to the contribution that a public body can make. The WFG Act gives flexibility to public bodies when setting well-being objectives to do so in a way that suits their role and functions.
15. Public bodies are required to take all reasonable steps (in the exercise of their functions) to meet the well-being objectives they set. There will always be a limit to the amount of finance, people, time, and assets that are available to take the necessary action, but the consideration of these factors needs to be reviewed through the application of the five ways of working within the [sustainable development principle](#).
16. The well-being duty ensures that public bodies in Wales take into account the long-term impacts of what they do. As per the definition of sustainable development in the WFG Act, the actions taken under the WFG Act are intended to benefit current generations (all ages) but in doing so avoiding adverse impact on future generations. The long-term nature of the WFG Act means that impacts will be seen over a longer period and therefore affect people and the environment in the long term.
17. The costs for the regulations are detailed in a Regulatory Impact Assessment and associated Explanatory Memorandum.

Social Partnership and Public Procurement (Wales) Act 2023

Social Partnership Duty

18. As a public body subject to the well-being duty, from 30 June 2024 (subject to the will of the Senedd), the additional public bodies will also be subject to the social partnership duty in the [SPPP Act](#). This means the public bodies will need to work with their recognised trade unions or other representatives of staff in both setting and delivering well-being objectives. The public bodies will also need to publish an annual social partnership report on their compliance with the duty and submit this to the Social Partnership Council. Involving both employers and workers in key discussions regarding improvements to well-being recognises and values the unique contribution and expertise brought by those directly engaged in public service delivery when addressing shared challenges and seeking innovative solutions.
19. Extending the well-being duty will therefore also result in greater coverage of the SPPP Act's provisions. This will improve public service delivery and complement the embedding of fair work within well-being objectives.

Fair Work

20. From April 2024, all public bodies subject to the WFG Act will also need to ensure their well-being objectives maximise their contribution to fair work. The SPPP Act amends the wording of the *A Prosperous Wales* well-being goal by changing 'decent work' to 'fair work'. 'Fair work' is the presence of observable conditions at work which means workers are fairly rewarded, heard and represented, secure and able to progress in a healthy, inclusive working environment where rights are respected.
21. Fair work enables a working environment which is attentive to the well-being of workers. The actions deployed by an organisation in their pursuit of fair work will

depend on the specific circumstances of that organisation. Some actions may not be appropriate or feasible for all organisations, it is for each organisation to determine which actions are. More information on fair work can be found on the [Welsh Government's webpages](#).

How have people most likely to be affected by the proposal been involved in developing it?

22. The proposal would make the additional public bodies subject to a duty that is already in place for 48 public bodies and has been in operation since 2016. The underpinning policy intent of the WFG Act will not change as a result of adding public bodies.
23. A 14-week public consultation on this proposal was launched on 14 July 2022 and closed on 20 October 2022. Under the WFG Act, there is a legal requirement to consult with the FGC, the public bodies proposed to be added to the WFG Act and other persons considered appropriate. The FGC and public bodies who were being proposed to be added to the WFG Act were directly consulted via a letter, inviting them to respond to the consultation. The consultation was open to all members of society and groups/organisations representing particular interests were able to have their say on the proposals and inform the final actions. The Welsh Government received a total of 34 responses to the consultation, which included:
- 2 Local Authorities
 - 3 Town and Community Councils
 - 2 Health Boards
 - 6 Government Agencies / Other Public Sector Bodies (additional public bodies)
 - 5 Government Agencies / Other Public Sector Public Bodies
 - 2 Third Sector Organisations / Charities
 - 8 Representative Bodies / Professional Bodies / Associations / Unions
 - 1 Private Company
 - 4 Individual Respondents
 - 1 Anonymous
24. The majority of respondents expressed support for extending the well-being duty to the additional public bodies because of the common strategic direction the duty provides by requiring organisations to adopt a whole system approach to improving the economic, social, environmental, and cultural well-being of Wales.

What are the most significant impacts, positive and negative?

25. The proposal does not change the scope and nature of the well-being duty itself or change the well-being goals which bodies must contribute towards, and sustainable development principle with which public bodies must act in accordance with. The impacts therefore only arise as a result of more public bodies being subject to the well-being duty. The impacts on the WFG Act were assessed as part of the development of the legislation and can be found in the [2015 Explanatory Memorandum](#).
26. The main impact is therefore on the public bodies who will become subject to the WFG Act and the SPPP Act. This will result in changes to how those organisations are to make decisions, involve people, collaborate with others, and set, publish, and report on their objectives. Through the consultation, some

respondents pointed out that using the *five ways of working*, as outlined in the WFG Act, has been useful in planning activities and effectively involving people in the development of policies. Some existing public bodies indicated that being subject to the well-being duty has helped bring more focus to being more sustainable and thinking more about the long term, as well as bringing a consistent approach across large parts of the public sector. Extending the WFG Act's reach to additional public bodies has the potential to increase the impacts originally identified as the additional public bodies change how they work and what they do to discharge their new duties under the WFG Act and the SPPP Act. This impact assessment builds on the assessment completed for the WFG Act, which can be found on the [National Archive's webpages](#).

27. This impact assessment recognises reflections of [Wellbeing of Wales report](#), [reports by the FGC](#) and [AGW's report on examinations](#). The AGW's report in particular found some opportunities for public bodies when complying with the sustainable development principle and good examples of public bodies supporting children and young people but found that public bodies needed to do more to involve people with protected characteristics in service design and delivery.
28. The Children's Rights Impact Assessment on this proposal concluded that extending the well-being duty does not impact negatively on the rights of children. Being subject to the well-being duty can help public bodies adopt a Children's Rights Approach in their work, help them approach children's well-being in an integrated manner, and draw out the important role that each public body plays in children's lives.
29. In terms of the Equality Impact Assessment, the decision that is being assessed does not change the equality duties on public bodies under the [Equality Act 2010: the Public Sector Equality Duty](#), nor does it change the well-being goals or sustainable development principle. Therefore, the original impact assessment developed for the WFG Act still remains valid.
30. In 2020, the AGW published his [report](#) detailing findings from his sustainable development examinations. The report found that there are many examples of where public bodies needed to do more to involve people with protected characteristics in service design and delivery. It identified opportunities for public bodies to connect involvement to their equality duties, which include engagement and carrying out their own equality impact assessments. It also suggested that public bodies should review the outcomes of involvement, which could include seeking feedback on experience of stakeholders involved in the process.
31. An updated Equality Impact Assessment concluded that given the additional public bodies subject to the well-being duty will be required to maximise their contribution to *all* the well-being goals, including *A More Equal Wales*, this will result in a positive impact for protected groups, as identified in the Equality Act 2010. The Rural Proofing Impact Assessment considered the impact of extending the well-being duty on those living within rural communities. Overall, the proposals are expected to have a positive impact of people who live in rural communities as public bodies will, by law, need to consider the needs of these communities when developing their well-being objectives.

32. All the public bodies listed in the WFG Act, including the additional public bodies, are providing services to people in rural areas and therefore there is the potential for those public bodies in carrying out sustainable development and acting in accordance with the sustainable development principle to make decisions that deliver positive benefits to the lives of people who live in rural communities.
33. In 2020, the AGW published his [report](#) detailing findings from his sustainable development examinations. In this report, he highlighted a case study of how Powys County Council and Powys Teaching Health Board have used collaboration, to deliver the [North Powys Wellbeing Programme](#). The programme took a robust and innovative approach to gathering and visualising health and social care data. The scope of this programme included working with local communities to co-design, test and deliver a new integrated model for a rural population in North Powys, bringing together partners across health, social care, and the third sector. The programme took an innovative approach to engaging with stakeholders and citizens in the development of the programme.
34. The Welsh Language Impact Assessment concluded that the extension of the well-being duty will have a positive impact on use of the Welsh language, given the explicit status of the Welsh language in the *A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language* well-being goal, and the related national indicators and milestones on Welsh language. No negative impacts were identified. The [consultation](#) for this proposal sought views on the impacts of extending the duty on the use of the Welsh language and the consensus was that the impacts will be positive.
35. Extending the number of public bodies who are subject to the well-being duty is consistent with promoting *A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language* across a wider range of organisations. It will support the promotion of skills development of young people and adult populations in Wales, who will have greater access to opportunities to learn about our culture, heritage, and language. In relation to all populations, this will increase employability for any job markets in Wales and ensure that culture, heritage, and language are central to jobs and seeking roles in the future.
36. The Biodiversity Impact Assessment found that there will be a net positive impact. By bringing additional public bodies under the well-being duty, it will be their responsibility to maximise their contribution to the *A resilient Wales* well-being goal, which includes in its description maintaining and enhancing a 'biodiverse natural environment'. Public bodies will need to therefore consider how to enhance biodiversity, and to consider linking these efforts to other well-being objectives.
37. It is expected that extending the well-being duty to the additional public bodies named in this proposal will have a positive impact on the health of people in Wales. The additional public bodies will, under the new duty, need to consider how they can maximise their contribution to the *A Healthier Wales* well-being goal. Given that the original policy of the WFG Act has not changed, we do not expect to see significant differential health impacts on particular groups. No negative effects are expected as a result of the proposal.
38. The Socio-economic Duty Impact Assessment found that, by extending the well-being duty and maximising contributions to the seven well-being goals, this will

complement the aims socio-economic duty and result in a positive impact on reducing socio-economic inequalities.

39. The Justice Impact Assessment concluded that the proposals would have no or minimal impact on the justice system.

In light of the impacts identified, how will the proposal:

- maximise contribution to our well-being objectives and the seven well-being goals; and/or,
- avoid, reduce or mitigate any negative impacts?

40. Early in the development of this proposal, it was identified that the main impact would be on the additional public bodies and how they make decisions, engage with citizens, collaborate with others, and set, publish, and report on their objectives. To minimise this impact all public bodies were engaged early in the process to make them aware of the proposals to add them to the WFG Act. We also continue to hold knowledge exchange sessions so that the additional public bodies can learn from existing public bodies and each other. These sessions have included officials from the FGC's office, Audit Wales, existing public bodies, and Welsh Government officials.

How will the impact of the proposal be monitored and evaluated as it progresses and when it concludes?

41. Each public body listed in the WFG Act must work to improve the economic, social, environmental, and cultural well-being of Wales. To do this they must set and publish well-being objectives. These objectives will show how each public body will work to achieve the vision for Wales set out in the well-being goals. Public bodies must then take action to make sure they meet the objectives they set. Many of the additional public bodies have already demonstrated their ability to set and publish these well-being objectives, and we expect a smooth transition. Public bodies will be required to report annually on the progress they are making towards their well-being objectives which will provide public information and support ongoing monitoring by the FGC.

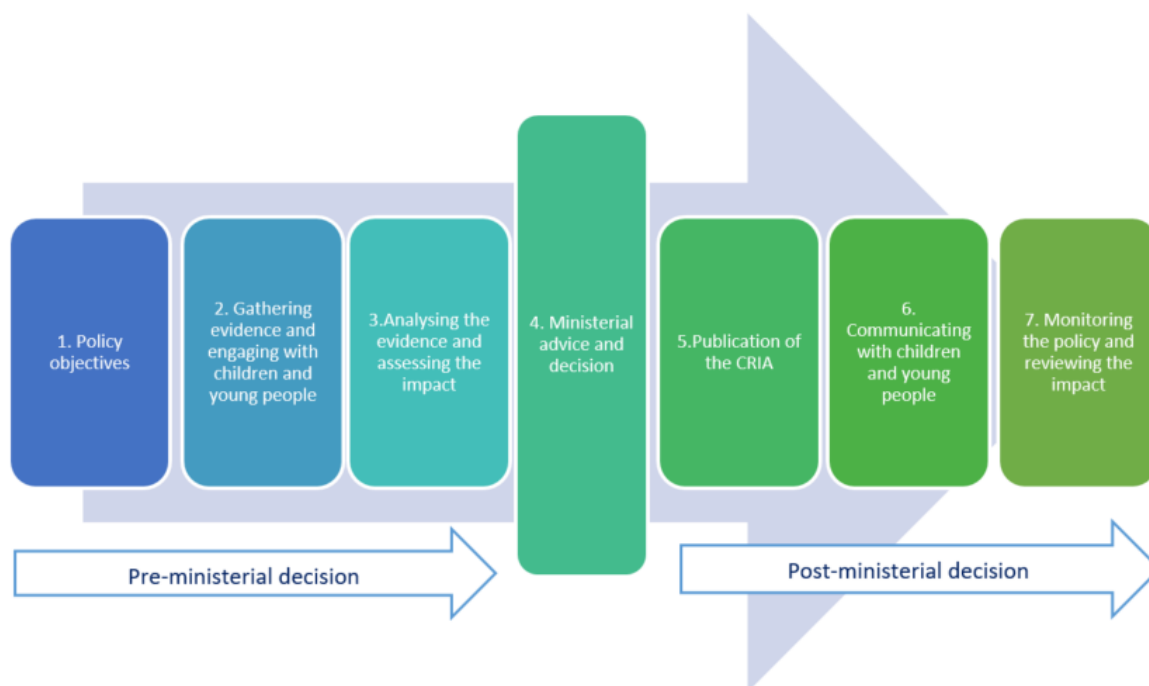
CHILDREN’S RIGHTS IMPACT ASSESSMENT

All completed Children’s Rights Impact Assessments must be sent to the CRIA@gov.wales mailbox

The Rights of Children and Young Persons (Wales) Measure 2011 places a duty on the Welsh Ministers to pay due regard to the [United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child \(UNCRC\) and its Optional Protocols](#) when exercising any of their functions.

The CRIA process is the agreed mechanism officials should use to support Ministers to meet this duty and ensure they give balanced consideration to children’s rights in their decision making. A CRIA should be used to inform ministerial advice and **must** be completed prior to a ministerial decision being made. Once a decision has been reached, your CRIA must also be published.

Please note we have an established Children’s Rights Advisory Group (CRAG), comprising the Children’s Commissioner for Wales’s office, UNICEF, the Wales Observatory on Human Rights of Children and Young People, and Children in Wales, who can be used to discuss or test your draft CRIA. Please contact the Children’s Branch CRIA@gov.wales for further information.



For further advice and guidance on the CRIA process, please consult the [Children’s Rights Manual for Staff](#) or contact the Children’s Branch CRIA@gov.wales

1. Policy objectives

- What decision are you impact assessing?
42. The decision to add public bodies to section 6 of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.
43. The public bodies to be added are:
- Qualifications Wales
 - Social Care Wales
 - Health Education and Improvement Wales
 - Welsh Revenue Authority
 - Transport for Wales
 - Centre for Digital Public Services Ltd
 - Digital Health and Care Wales
 - Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust
44. The WFG Act places a duty on each public body to carry out sustainable development. Public bodies must, when they are carrying out sustainable development, set and publish their well-being objectives. The well-being objectives must be designed to maximise the contribution of the public body to achieving each of the well-being goals.
45. As set out in the statutory guidance for the WFG Act ([Shared Purpose: Shared Future – Core Guidance](#)) ‘The WFG Act provides for better decision-making by ensuring that those public bodies take account of the long-term, help to prevent problems occurring or getting worse, take an integrated and collaborative approach, and considers and involves people of all ages. This supports existing commitments such as the Welsh language, equalities and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.’
46. Under the ‘involvement’ way of working, the statutory guidance makes references to the National Participation Standards for Children and Young People and strongly encourages public bodies to apply these standards in discharging their obligations to ‘take account of the importance of involving other persons with an interest in achieving the well-being goals and ensuring those persons reflect the diversity of Wales.’ Children and young people are specifically referenced as types and groups of people to involve.

2. Gathering evidence and engaging with children and young People

- What existing research and data on children and young people is available to inform your specific policy? Your policy objective may impact on other policy areas – discussions with other policy teams will be an important part of the impact assessment process ensuring you have gathered a range of information and evidence.
47. The decision that is being assessed does not change the duties on public bodies, nor the well-being goals or sustainable development principle. Therefore, the original [impact assessment](#) developed for the WFG Act remains valid. The decision is about adding further public bodies and therefore it is not necessary to collect data on children and young people.
48. However, reports such as the [Future Trends Report 2017](#) and the [Future Trends Report 2021](#) provide a robust starting point for decision-makers to explore the

implications of these trends, so that we can better understand Wales' future, driven by solidarity with future generations. These reports provide a valuable resource in order to help the public bodies in contribute to the well-being goals as set out in the WFG Act.

49. The FGC, through their statutory [Future Generations Reports](#), highlights good examples of involving children and young people and policy outcomes to address the issues children and young people face.
50. The FGC's [report](#) in 2020, made a recommendation that, in collaboration with local education authorities, Welsh Government shift their focus towards prevention across schools in Wales to reduce the number of children excluded from school, helping to improve the life trajectory of children who are at an increased risk of inclusion due to inequality; and help break lifelong cycles of disadvantage, loneliness and adversity, as part of a coordinated national mission to deliver education for the future.
 - Using this research, how do you anticipate your policy will affect different groups¹ of children and young people, both positively and negatively? Please remember policies focused on adults can impact children and young people too.
51. The decision that is being assessed does not change the duties on public bodies, nor the well-being goals or sustainable development principle. Therefore, the original [impact assessment](#) developed for the WFG Act remains valid.
52. In 2022, as part of publishing the annual wellbeing report under section 10(10) of the WFG Act, the Welsh Government published a [supplementary report](#) which provided an extract of the analysis contained in the Wellbeing of Wales report concerning the wellbeing of children. The main points of this report were:
 - There have been mixed long-term results in terms of a healthy start in life, with a relatively stable trend in low-birth-weight babies, but improvements in breastfeeding take-up and reductions in pregnant women recorded as smokers at initial assessment.
 - New data from Foundation Phase baseline assessments show how children have developed before entering school, with the latest data reporting on the academic year 2021 to 2022 following the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - In 2021-22, 66% of 16- to 24-year-olds think that climate change is mainly or entirely due to human activity. 97% think human activity is involved to some extent in the world's climate changing.
 - Personal well-being declines with age and amongst those self-identifying as neither a boy nor a girl.
 - The national milestone on children's healthy lifestyle behaviours is to increase the percentage of children with two or more healthy behaviours to 94% by 2035 and more than 99% by 2050. The data shows the percentage of children

¹ You may, for instance, consider how your policy would affect the following groups of children and young people differently: early years, primary, secondary, young adults; children with additional learning needs; disabled children; children living in poverty; Black, Asian and minority ethnic children; Gypsies, Roma and Travellers; migrants; asylum seekers; refugees; Welsh-language speakers; care experienced children; LGBTQ+ children. Please note that this is a non-exhaustive list and within these cohorts there will not be one homogenous experience.

meeting the national milestone remains at 88% (in the 2019/20 academic year) and has remained stable since data collection started in the 2013/14 academic year.

- Most healthy lifestyle behaviours deteriorate during the years children attend secondary school.
- Data from the 2019/20 academic year shows that on average, problematic social media use increased with age and was higher in girls than boys.
- Adverse Childhood Experience studies highlight the relationship between harmful experiences in childhood with negative long-term outcomes.
- The most recent report from the [School Health Research Network Student Health and Wellbeing survey](#) comparing mental wellbeing findings from before to during the pandemic (2019 to 2021) found a fall in mental wellbeing for 11 to 16 years olds.

Positive Impacts

53. The WFG Act's original [impact assessment](#) remains valid because the policy intent has not changed. Children and future generations will naturally see the most outcomes of this change in focus.
54. A public body's duty to take account of the importance of the *five ways of working* does not dictate the decision they must reach in any given situation: it sets out factors they must conscientiously consider before making a decision to which the well-being duty applies.
55. The additional public bodies – as is the case with those already subject to the well-being duty – will be required to set their well-being objectives to seek to maximise their contribution to the well-being goals, which have a strong connection to the themes of the 42 rights of the children in the Convention. The way that this mechanism supports children's rights is discussed in more detail below and in the WFG Act's original [impact assessment](#).
56. The [statutory guidance](#) which the additional public bodies will be required to take into account highlights how the discharge of the well-being duty can be complementary to the UNCRC, and encourages public bodies subject to the well-being duty to consider how they can support children and young people realise their rights, and how they can be involved and participate, when setting their well-being objectives and how these aspects link to the well-being goals

Negative Impacts

57. There is risk of a potential negative impact on children from disadvantaged backgrounds if their needs are not given enough weight by public bodies, resulting in potential decisions not adequately addressing their needs.
58. The WFG Act mitigates these by the following provisions:
 - The statutory FGC has a key role, as part of supporting organisations, of making recommendations on how they can improve on their work towards their well-being objectives in accordance with the sustainable development principle. The additional public bodies listed in this proposal will be required to respond to these recommendations. The FGC is supported by an advisory panel which by law includes in its membership the Children's Commissioner for Wales, so

that issues affecting children from different backgrounds can be properly represented in the FGC's advice to organisations.

- The specified public bodies in this proposal – like the existing public bodies – are required to set, meet, and measure progress toward well-being objectives which contribute to the national well-being goals. This regular reporting in relation to such integrated aims at a local level, and the statutory Future Trends Report, improve transparency and make monitoring any disadvantages to children easier.
- The statutory guidance advises public bodies on how to involve children and young people by reference to the [National Participation Standards for Children and Young People](#). The standards underpin the three pillars of the UNCRC – Protection, Provision and Participation.

59. Where public bodies set well-being objectives, this will take into account the needs of children and young people. Extending the well-being to the additional public bodies will widen the scope of positive impacts for children and young people.
60. One example of an additional public body using the *five ways of working* set out in the WFG Act is Transport for Wales when creating their [Transport Strategy for 2021](#) under their [Corporate Strategy for 2021-26](#). One aspect of this strategy is 'Connecting our Rural Communities'
61. As well as the well-being goals *A Wales of Cohesive Communities* and *A More Equal Wales*, the well-being objectives of Transport for Wales also contribute to *A Healthier Wales* and *A Globally Responsible Wales*. In turn, this will help to address issues contributing to poverty in rural areas. Adding Transport for Wales and the other additional public bodies to the WFG Act will maximise their contribution to the well-being goals.
- What participatory work with children and young people have you used to inform your policy? If you have not engaged with children and young people, please explain why.²
62. As the policy doesn't change, there was no need to consult specifically with children and young people. This will be something that some of the additional public bodies may wish to do when setting their well-being objectives. No issues specific to children or young people arose in any engagement or in any of the responses to the [consultation](#) on this proposal.
63. Depending on the well-being objectives set by public bodies, and the steps they take to meet these objectives, the inclusion of *A Healthier Wales* is steering public bodies' actions in a way which can benefit children and young people.
64. An example in the Health sector in relation to children and young people can be found in the AGW 2020 [report](#), which details findings from his sustainable development examinations. In this report, he highlighted an example of effective use of the sustainable development principle, with Aneurin Bevan University Health Board launching 'Connect', which is a weight management service for children and young people. It involved a new Gwent-wide team of health care professionals working together to support children, young people, and their

² Article 12 of the UNCRC stipulates that children have a right to express their views, particularly when adults are making decisions that affect them, and to have their opinions taken into account.

families, to improve their physical and emotional health and to treat the complications of obesity. It was developed as a partnership between physical and mental health services.

65. The service was designed with a long-term, preventative focus. Staff worked collaboratively to identify the cost of obesity, as well as to estimate the current and future demand for the specialist service, service capacity and required resources both finance and workforce. They evaluated the resources used to provide care for children and young people with obesity to identify how much could be reinvested in the new service.
66. The Health Board worked with a range of partners to map services and resources for tackling obesity, for example in relation to physical activity and access to healthy affordable food choices. 'Connect' is helping to shape a whole-systems approach to tackling childhood obesity. For example, 'Connect' is linking with Health Visiting teams implementing the Healthy Child Wales Programme and the School Health Nursing Service, which undertakes the childhood measurement programme.
67. An outcomes framework was developed alongside to inform service delivery and improvements, to monitor clinical outcomes, and to understand the impact and experience of children and their families. Measures include specially developed patient (child) reported outcome measures, patient (child) experience measures and quality of life measures.
68. Developing a new service (the first in Wales) required trust, risk-taking and support from senior leaders within the organisation to commit resources where outcomes may not be evident in the short term.

For advice on participatory work with children and young people, please contact the Children's Branch. We have an established relationship with Children in Wales, who may be able to help you work with children and young people through their Young Wales programme.

3. Analysing the evidence and assessing the impact

- Using the evidence you have gathered, what impact is your policy likely to have on children and young people? What steps will you take to mitigate and/or reduce any negative effects?

69. The original [impact assessment](#) of the WFG Act remains valid because the policy has not changed.
70. However, adding more public bodies to the WFG Act's framework widens the scope of any potential impact. The additional public bodies operate nationally and are likely to provide services for children and young people.
71. Mitigation of negative effects is set out at paragraph 58.

How does your proposal enhance or challenge children’s rights, as stipulated by the UNCRC articles and its Optional Protocols? Please refer to the [articles](#) to see which ones apply to your own policy.

UNCRC Articles or Optional Protocol	Enhances (X)	Challenges (X)	Explanation
<p>That all the rights guaranteed by the UNCRC must be available to all children without discrimination of any kind (Article 2)</p> <p>That the best interests of the child must be a primary consideration in all actions concerning children (Article 3)</p> <p>That every child has the right to life, survival and development (Article 6)</p> <p>That the child’s view must be considered and taken into account in all matters affecting him or her (Article 12)</p> <p><i>A Prosperous Wales</i></p> <p>Articles 4, 5, 6, 18, 26, 27, 28, 29, 42.</p> <p><i>A Resilient Wales</i></p> <p>Articles 4, 13, 15, 17, 24, 26, 27.</p> <p><i>A Healthier Wales</i></p> <p>Articles 3, 6, 24, 31, 33, 39</p> <p><i>A More Equal Wales</i></p> <p>Articles 1, 2, 7, 8, 12, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 30.</p> <p><i>A Wales of Cohesive Communities</i></p> <p>Articles 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 22, 25, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40.</p> <p><i>*Articles 1 to 10 on Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of</i></p>	<p>X</p> <p>X</p> <p>X</p> <p>X</p> <p>X</p>		<p>The proposal to extend the well-being duty to additional public bodies has the potential to positively affect many of the articles within the UNCRC. This includes four articles that are given special emphasis within the UN Convention known as ‘general principles’. These rights are the bedrock for securing the additional rights in the UN Convention.</p> <p>The Right Way, a report produced jointly by the Children’s Commissioner for Wales and the FGC, provides an example of how each of the articles in the UNCRC can be mapped across each of the well-being goals. The FGC provides advice and support to public bodies subject to the WFG Act to contribute to the well-being goals. Public bodies are expected to demonstrate their contributions to the well-being goals in their well-being reports.</p>

<p><i>Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography</i></p> <p><i>*Articles 1 to 7 on Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict, except Article 6(2)</i></p> <p><i>A Wales of Vibrant Culture and a Thriving Welsh Language</i></p> <p>Articles 29, 30, 31.</p> <p><i>A Globally Responsible Wales</i></p> <p>Articles 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 12, 41, 42.</p>			
	X		
	X		

- Consider whether any EU Citizens Rights (as referenced in the Equality Impact Assessment) relate to young people up to the age of 18.

72. This proposal is not expected to have any specific impact on these groups.

For further information on the [UNCRC](#) and its Optional Protocols, please visit the [Children's Rights Intranet Page](#).

4. Ministerial advice and decision

- How will your analysis of these impacts inform your ministerial advice?
 - *Once completed, your CRIA must be signed off by your Deputy Director.*
 - *Your CRIA findings should be integrated into your ministerial advice to inform their decision.*

73. Ministerial advice will explain that since the WFG Act was passed into law, the public sector landscape in Wales has changed, and explain how the addition of the additional public bodies will help better reflect the scope and breadth of the sustainable development agenda in Wales. The public bodies' formal inclusion within the agenda will strengthen how the devolved Welsh public sector collectively implements the WFG Act.

74. The [responses](#) to the consultation on this proposal held in 2022 emphasised that addition of these public bodies is widely seen as a timely and welcome move which would strengthen the sustainable development architecture in Wales and benefit all in Wales, including children.

75. The responses from public bodies currently subject to the WFG Act's well-being duty outlined the benefits from improved partnership working, which provides opportunities to make a shared contribution to sustainable development. The inclusion of these additional public bodies will strengthen the use of the

sustainable ways of working that are central to how the [One Welsh Public Service](#) works.

76. The integrated impact assessment builds on the previous [impact assessment](#) for the WFG Act. The assessment considered the role and function of the additional public bodies in terms of the positive impacts they will have as part of their contribution to the national well-being goals and their involvement in the WFG agenda so far. Any evidence, literature and reports of relevance have been taken into account since the well-being duty came into force as public bodies have access to this publicly available information to help inform them when setting well-being objectives.

5. Publication of the CRIA

- *Following the ministerial decision, the CRIA should be published on the Welsh Government website.*
- *Send sections 1 and 8 of your IIA and the CRIA (Annex A) to your departmental web manager for publishing.*
- ***All** completed CRIAs must also be sent to the CRIA@gov.wales mailbox.*

For further information and support on this process, please visit the [Children's Rights Intranet Page](#) which contains a range of resources.

6. Communicating with Children and Young People

- If you have sought children and young people's views on your proposal, how will you inform them of the outcome?

77. As the policy doesn't change, there was no need to consult specifically with children and young people. However, this will be something that some of the additional public bodies are encouraged to do in the [statutory guidance](#) when taking into account the importance of involving people when setting their well-being objectives.

If your policy affects children and young people, remember to produce child-friendly versions of any public document relating to your proposal. Please contact the Children's Branch for further advice.

7. Monitoring and Review

78. The implementation and impact of the additional public bodies in carrying out sustainable development will be monitored through:

- Public bodies

- Annual reports – each public body is required to report on the progress it has made in meeting its well-being objectives for the preceding year.
- Future Generations Commissioner
 - Monitoring – under section 18 of the WFG Act, the FGC has a general duty, among other things, to monitor and assess the extent to which well-being objectives set by public bodies are being met.
 - [Annual Reports](#) – The Annual Report of the FGC may include the FGC’s assessment of the improvements that public bodies should make in order to meet their well-being objectives in accordance with the sustainable development principle.
 - Reviews – under section 20 of the WFG Act, the FGC may conduct a review into the extent to which a public body is safeguarding the ability of future generations to meet their needs by taking account of the long-term impact of things the body does. A public body must take all reasonable steps to follow the course of action set out in a recommendation made to it by the FGC under this section.
- Auditor General for Wales
 - Examination – under section 15 of the WFG Act, the AGW carries out regular examinations of the setting of well-being objectives and the steps public bodies make to meet those objectives.
- Welsh Government
 - Annual [Well-being of Wales Report](#) – Provides an update of national progress in achieving the seven well-being goals through the 50 national indicators and 17 national milestones.